UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/780,860	02/19/2004	Gadze C. Nauta	0142-0446P	1969

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER
SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/03/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/780,860	NAUTA, GADZE C.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Satwant K. Singh	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

> A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
> - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
> - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
> Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _19 February 2004_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-17_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-17_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _19 February 2004_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _2/19/04_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of
> matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the
> conditions and requirements of this title.

2.   Claims 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is

directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 14-17, while defining a computer

program do not define a "computer-readable medium" and are thus non-statutory for

that reason. A program can range from paper on which the program is written, to a

program simply contemplated and memorized by a person. The examiner suggests

amending the claims to embody the program on "computer-readable medium" in order

to make the claim statutory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
> granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
> 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States
> only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2)
> of such treaty in the English language.

4.   Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ueda

(US 7,298,505).

5.   Regarding Claim 1, Ueda discloses a system for processing print jobs in a

network (Fig. 1, network 3) containing a plurality of client stations adapted to submit

print jobs (Fig. 1, host units 4, 5, and 6), and at least one printing device containing a

control unit (Fit. 1, control unit 11) and a printer (Fig. 1, printer 1), the control unit

including storage means for storing print jobs submitted to the printing device (Fig. 1,

queue management unit 16) (col. 4, lines 60-64), which comprises means for generating

and submitting a print account job containing account information of a print job (Fig. 1,

confidential processing unit 17) (col. 5, lines 3-10) , wherein the print account job is

linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier (password), and means for

validating stored print jobs for printing (checking entered password with the password

associated with the print job), wherein said validating means receives account jobs and

validates a corresponding print job for printing in the case a valid account job has been

received (confidential processing unit checks the password entered from the input unit

against the password that is attached to the print job) (col. 5, lines 3-10).

6.   Regarding Claim 2, Ueda discloses a system, wherein the client station

comprises a job submitter including said means for generating and submitting print

account jobs (Fig. 1, network interface 2) (col. 4, lines 37-44).

7.   Regarding Claim 3, Ueda discloses a system, wherein a server station (printer 1)

is adapted to intercept a submitted print job, said server station comprising means for

generating and submitting a print account job containing account information of the

intercepted print job, wherein the print account job is linked to the corresponding print

job by a linking identifier (confidential processing unit displays a list of confidential print jobs onto the display) (col. 5, lines 25-36).

8.   Regarding Claim 4, Ueda disclose a system, wherein the server station is adapted to communicate with a client station to obtain account information of the intercepted print job for insertion in the print account job (queue management unit stores at the pint of receipt the print requests for the confidential prints with a print hold status) (col. 5, lines 25-36).

9.   Regarding Claim 5, Ueda discloses a system, wherein a printer server comprises said means for validating stored print jobs for printing, and wherein said validating means validates a print job by generating a print validation command for a corresponding print job and submitting the print validation command to the printing device (user enters a valid password for the confidential print job) (col. 5, lines 25-36).

10.   Regarding Claim 6, Ueda discloses a system, wherein the control unit of the printing device is adapted to receive print jobs and print account jobs (upon password entry for a confidential print jog, the confidential processing unit displays on the display a list of print request for confidential print jobs), and wherein said validating means are part of the control unit of the printing device (confidential processing unit checks the password entered against the password that is attached to the print data) (col. 5, lines 3-10).

11.   Regarding Claim 7, Ueda discloses a system, wherein the control unit of the printing device stores all submitted print and account jobs in a holding queue in the storage means (queue management unit stores at the point of receipt, the print requests

for he confidential prints with a print hold status) (col. 5, lines 25-36), said control unit

being arranged to check stored print and account jobs in order to match linked print and

account jobs, so that in the case where a print job is matched with an account jobs the

account information is checked, and if the account information is valid, the print job is

removed from the holding queue and validated for printing and the account job is

removed from the holding queue and the account information is stored in the storage

means (Fig. 3) (entered password is authenticated as valid, control unit releases the

hold status of that confidential print job) (col. 6, lines 31-45).

12.   Regarding Claim 8, Ueda discloses a printing device, comprising a control unit

(Fig. 1, control unit 11) and a printer (Fig. 1, printer engine 15), the control unit including

storage means for storing print jobs (Fig. 1, queue management unit 16) (col. 4, lines

60-64) in a holding queue (queue management unit stores at the point of receipt, the

print requests for he confidential prints with a print hold status) (col. 5, lines 25-36); the

control unit of the printing device being adapted to receive print jobs and print account

jobs (Fig. 1, confidential processing unit 17) (col. 5, lines 3-10), wherein the control unit

contains means for validating stored print jobs for printing, said validating means being

adapted to receive account jobs and validate a corresponding print job for printing in

case a valid account job has been received (confidential processing unit checks the

password entered from the input unit against the password that is attached to the print

job) (col. 5, lines 3-10).

13.   Regarding Claim 9, Ueda discloses a printing device, wherein the control unit

stores all submitted print and account jobs in a holding queue in the storage means

(queue management unit stores at the point of receipt, the print requests for he

confidential prints with a print hold status) (col. 5, lines 25-36), said control unit being

arranged to check stored print and account jobs in order to match linked print and

account jobs, wherein in the case where a print job is matched with an account job,

account information is checked and if the account information is valid, the print job is

removed from the holding queue and validated for printing and the account job is

removed from the holding queue and the account information is stored in the storage

means (Fig. 3) (entered password is authenticated as valid, control unit releases the

hold status of that confidential print job) (col. 6, lines 31-45).

14.   Regarding Claim 10, Ueda discloses a client station (Fig. 1, host units 4, 5, and

6) being adapted to submit print jobs (print jobs transmitted from the output devices of

host units), wherein a job submitter is provided, including means for generating and

submitting a print account job containing account information of a print job (print data

and print request are input to transmit the print jobs from the output devices) (col. 4,

lines 37-44), the print account job being linked to the corresponding print job by a linking

identifier (confidential processing unit checks the password entered from the input unit

against the password that is attached to the print job) (col. 5, lines 3-10).

15.   Regarding Claim 11, Ueda discloses a server station adapted to intercept a

submitted print job, the server station comprising means for generating and submitting a

print account job containing account information of the intercepted print job, wherein the

print account job is linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier

(confidential processing unit displays a list of confidential print jobs onto the display) (col. 5, lines 25-36).

16.   Regarding Claim 12, Ueda discloses a server station, which is adapted to communicate with a client station to obtain account information of the intercepted print job for insertion in the print account job (confidential processing unit checks the password entered from the input unit against the password that is attached to the print job) (col. 5, lines 3-10).

17.   Regarding Claim 13, Ueda discloses a printer server including means for validating stored print jobs for printing, wherein the validating means validates a print job by generating a print validation command for a corresponding print job and submitting the print validation command to a printing device (valid password entries by users release the hold status so that printing is performed) (col. 5, lines 25-36)

18.   Claim 14 is rejected for the same reason as claim 10.

19.   Claim 15 is rejected for the same reason as claim 1.

20.   Claim 16 is rejected for the same reason as claim 11.

21.   Claim 17 is rejected for the same reason as claim 13.

Conclusion

22.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Salgado et al. (US 5,970,224) discloses a multifunctional printing system with queue management.

Osada et al. (US 6,600,569) discloses a printing control apparatus for analyzing and processing an input print job that includes printing management data for managing the print job and print data.

Richter et al. (US 6,678,068) discloses a client print server link for an output peripheral device.

Blom et al. (US 6,863,455) discloses a method for managing a printing system in which print jobs are disposed with a print queue.

Wanda (US 6,916,127) discloses to print continuously in the specified order by one operation a series of print jobs printed in any timing by a plurality of host computers for the same printer even if a usual print job is spooled together in a print server.

Matsueda (US 6,985,243) discloses a print server system where a user can select a spooler of a server or that of a client from which a stored image is to be print-outputted.

Gassho et al. (US 7,054,020) discloses a spooler that adequately manages and controls print job.
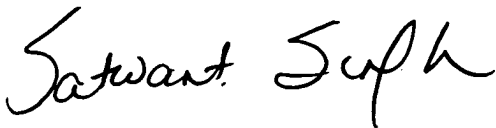
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Satwant K. Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

sks

THOMAS D. LEE